

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 28-31 and 38-42 are pending.

The pending claims were previously allowed. An RCE has been filed to consider additional references. **Additional references are submitted herewith for consideration by the examiner in an a Supplemental IDS accompanying this preliminary amendment.**

Claim 31 has been amended to change "frame" to "received frame" for proper antecedent basis.

Claim 38 has been amended to change:

"frame" to "received frame" for consistent usage of the phrase;

"preliminary classification" to "preliminary VLAN classification" for proper antecedent basis; and

"cryptographic message digest " to "cryptographic message digest algorithm" for proper antecedent basis.

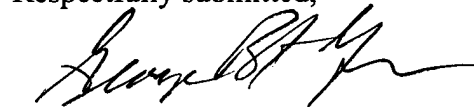
Claim 42 has been amended to change "cryptographic digest method algorithm" to "cryptographic message digest algorithm" for proper antecedent basis.

No new matter has been added.

All claims pending in this Application continue to be in condition for allowance. The re-issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 650-324-6352, if a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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